

Response Under 37 CFR § 1.116  
Expedited Procedure

a housing having a passageway that accommodates the passage of the surgical components therein;

B1  
sealing means for preventing the loss of blood from the vessel during the insertion and subsequent removal of surgical components during the surgical procedure, wherein said sealing means comprises a sealing cavity, wherein said sealing cavity is filled with a biocompatible sealing material, wherein said sealing material does not contain a pre-formed lumen, wherein said sealing material forms a seal around the surgical components as the components are inserted through said sealing material and removed from said introducer sheath device during the surgical procedure.

sub C2  
B2  
97. (Amended) The introducer sheath device according to Claim [90]96, wherein said at least one filling passageway extends along said passageway that accommodates the passage of the surgical components.

REMARKS

Claims 82, 85-87, 96 and 97 are present in this application. By this amendment, Claims 82 and 97 are amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 CFR § 1.116 since the amendment: (1) places the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (2) does not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution); (3) satisfies a requirement of form asserted in the